

ABSTRACT

A data drive and a method of operating a data drive are provided. The data drive includes a drive base; a data transfer mechanism coupled to the drive base; a carriage assembly for receiving a cartridge containing a data storage medium; and a carriage assembly actuator coupled to the drive base for translating the carriage assembly to expose a plurality of radial positions of the data storage medium to the data transfer mechanism. The method includes receiving a data storage cartridge containing a rotatable data storage medium into a carriage assembly; translating the carriage assembly across a data transfer mechanism; and reading data from the data storage medium using the data transfer mechanism as the carriage assembly is being translated across the data transfer mechanism.